

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11

ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 MCT-01 /124 W

-----121705 170250Z /70

O 170244Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1401

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01986

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LONDON PLEASE PASS TO AMB YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CONTACT GROUP MEETINGS OF MAY 16

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 984, (B) CAPE TOWN 983, (C) USUN
1946

1. CONTACT GROUP MET PM MAY 16 IN RESPONSE TO NOTIFICA-
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TION (REF A) OF BOTHA'S REQUEST TO MEET WITH CAPE TOWN
FIVE AM MAY 17. GROUP AGREES WITH CAPE TOWN FIVE'S
PROPOSED HANDLING OF THE MEETING (REF A). GROUP ESPECIALLY
AGREES THAT COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF BOTHA'S MESSAGE
BE WITHHELD PENDING CONSULTATION WITH CAPITALS. IF BOTHA
PROPOSES TO TAKE IMMEDIATE AND UNHELPFUL ACTION, IT MAY,
OF COURSE, BE NECESSARY TO REQUEST THAT HE HOLD OFF,

PENDING REACTION OF THE FIVE.

2. DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION, UKUN RECEIVED WORD THAT LONDON OBJECTED TO INCLUDING IN CAPE TOWN'S PROPOSED TALKING POINTS (REF A) FOR USE WITH BOTHA, THE STATEMENT THAT "YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR SOME FURTHER DELAY". DAVID OWEN HAD MET AM MAY 16 WITH KENNETH KAUNDA, WHO HAD REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT A FRONTLINE SUMMIT ON NAMIBIA COULD BE HELD TOWARDS THE END OF MAY. IN LIGHT OF THIS, LONDON FELT THAT A "DELAY" IN OUR INITIATIVE WAS NO LONGER INEVITABLE. ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF CONTACT GROUP IMMEDIATELY AND FIRMLY TOOK ISSUE WITH LONDON'S REASONING. WE ARGUED THAT IT WAS MOST UNLIKELY THAT A FRONTLINE SUMMIT WOULD BE HELD THAT SOON AND THAT SOUTH AFRICA MUST THEREFORE, BE PREPARED FOR A FURTHER DELAY IN OUR INITIATIVE. UKUN AGREED AND SAID THAT THEY WOULD MAKE KNOWN TO LONDON SUBSTANCE AND INTENSITY OF GROUP'S FEELING ON THE SUBJECT.

3. IN CONTACT GROUP MEETING EARLIER IN THE DAY, (AND PRIOR TO RECEIVING WORD OF BOTHA MEETING), GROUP DISCUSSED AGAIN THE SUGGESTION (REF C) OF HAVING A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTACT GROUP TRAVEL SOON TO SOUTHERN AFRICA TO EXPLAIN TO THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA (THROUGH PUBLIC STATEMENTS, CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESS, ETC.) THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS CONCERNING

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NAMIBIA INITIATIVE AND THE TRUE IMPACT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RAID. GROUP AGREED THAT SUCH A TRIP IS NEEDED, THAT IT SHOULD BE MADE WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK, AND THAT A STOP IN WINDHOEK SHOULD BE MADE ONLY AFTER STOPS IN LUSAKA, AND PERHAPS OTHER FRONTLINE CAPITALS. THE OTHER FOUR UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT AMB MCHENRY WAS THE BEST PERSON TO MAKE SUCH A TRIP. AMB MCHENRY AGREED TO RAISE THE SUGGESTION THAT HE MAKE A TRIP WITH THE DEPT. MCHENRY

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